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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/667,188	09/21/2000	Scott E. Andersen	38-21(51464)B	8378

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EXAMINER

GUNTER, DAVID R

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1634

DATE MAILED: 05/15/2002

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/667,188

Applicant(s)

ANDERSEN ET AL.

Examiner

David R. Gunter

Art Unit

1634

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 June 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

Restrictions

Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claims 1-2, drawn to a purified nucleic acid molecule selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1-8135, classified in class 536, subclass 22.1.
- II. Claim 3, drawn to a purified wheat protein encoded by a nucleic acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1-8135, classified in class 530, subclass 350.
- III. Claims 4-10, drawn to a transformed plant, classified in class 800, subclass 278.

1. Inventions I and II are unrelated. Inventions are unrelated if it can be shown that they are not disclosed as capable of use together and they have different modes of operation, different functions, or different effects (MPEP § 806.04, MPEP § 808.01). Nucleotide sequences encoding proteins are structurally and functionally distinct chemical compounds from the amino acid sequences they encode and so are unrelated to the protein. The nucleotide and the protein encoded are thus deemed to normally constitute independent and distinct inventions within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. 121.

2. Inventions I and III are related as product and process of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product (MPEP

§ 806.05(h)). In the instant case the product (purified nucleic acid molecule of invention 1) can be used in a broad range of processes other than the formation of a genetically modified plant. Potential uses for the nucleic acid molecules of invention 1 include northern blotting, southern blotting, acting as a template for PCR amplification, or identification of DNA binding proteins.

3. Inventions II and III are related as process of making and product made. The inventions are distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) that the process as claimed can be used to make other and materially different product or (2) that the product as claimed can be made by another and materially different process (MPEP § 806.05(f)). In the instant case the product (the proteins disclosed in invention II) can be made by a variety of processes other than production by a transformed plant (invention III). Proteins can be created by solid-state synthesis, expression in prokaryotic cells, or purification from naturally occurring sources.

Restriction Requirement Applicable to All Groups

4. In addition, each group detailed above reads on patentably distinct groups drawn to multiple SEQ ID Numbers. Nucleotide sequences encoding different proteins are structurally distinct chemical compounds and are unrelated to one another. These sequences are thus deemed to normally constitute independent and distinct inventions within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. 121. Absent evidence to the contrary, each nucleotide sequence is presumed to represent an independent and distinct invention, subject to a restriction requirement pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 121 and 37 CFR 1.141.

Similarly, the protein sequences in the instant application are patentably distinct because they are unrelated due to the differences in their sequence, structure, and function. Therefore, a further restriction is applied to each group.

The applicant is required to select one of the three claim groups outlined above for prosecution on its merits. For an elected group drawn to amino acid sequences, the applicants are restricted to a single amino acid sequence. For an elected group drawn to nucleotide sequences, the applicants are restricted to a single nucleotide sequence. The applicant must indicate a single SEQ ID NO to which prosecution will be limited. The selection of a single SEQ ID NO represents a response to a restriction requirement, not an election of species.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David R. Gunter whose telephone number is (703) 308-1701. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00 - 5:00 M - F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gary Jones can be reached on (703) 308-1152. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 746-9212 for regular communications and (703) 308-8724 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0198.

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David R. Gunter, DVM, PhD

May 10, 2002



Dr. David R. Gunter
May 10, 2002